

Government through the financing. The contractor's use of the contract financing provided and the contractor's financial status shall be monitored.

(b) If the contractor is a small business concern, the contracting officer shall give special attention to meeting the contractor's contract financing need. However, a contractor's receipt of a certificate of competency from the Small Business Administration has no bearing on the contractor's need for or entitlement to contract financing.

(c) Subject to specific agency regulations, the contracting officer may provide customary contract financing in accordance with 32.113. Unusual contract financing shall not be provided except as authorized in 32.114.

(d) Unless otherwise authorized by agency regulation, contract financing may be provided for contracts with—

(1) Small business concerns, when the contract price will be greater than the simplified acquisition threshold; or

(2) Other than small business concerns, when the contract price will be \$1 million or more, or for a group of contracts, whose prices are greater than the simplified acquisition threshold, that total \$1 million or more.

[48 FR 42328, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 60 FR 49711, Sept. 26, 1995]

#### **32.105 Uses of contract financing.**

(a) Contract financing methods covered in this part are intended to be self-liquidating through contract performance. Consequently, agencies shall only use the methods for financing of contractor working capital, not for the expansion of contractor-owned facilities or the acquisition of fixed assets. However, under loan guarantees, exceptions may be made for—

(1) Facilities expansion of a minor or incidental nature, if a relatively small part of the guaranteed loan is used for the expansion and the contractor's repayment would not be delayed or impaired; or

(2) Other instances of facilities expansion for which contract financing is appropriate under agency procedures.

(b) The limitations in this section do not apply to contracts under which facilities are being acquired for Government ownership.

#### **32.106 Order of preference.**

The contracting officer shall consider the following order of preference when a contractor requests contract financing, unless an exception would be in the Government's best interest in a specific case:

(a) Private financing without Government guarantee. It is not intended, however, that the contractor be required to obtain private financing (1) at unreasonable terms, or (2) from other agencies.

(b) Customary contract financing (see 32.113).

(c) Loan guarantees.

(d) Unusual contract financing (see 32.114).

(e) Advance payments (see exceptions in 32.402(b)).

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#### **32.107 Need for contract financing not a deterrent.**

(a) If the contractor or offeror meets the standards prescribed for responsible prospective contractors at 9.104, the contracting officer shall not treat the contractor's need for contract financing as a handicap for a contract award; e.g., as a responsibility factor or evaluation criterion.

(b) The contractor should not be disqualified from contract financing solely because the contractor failed to indicate a need for contract financing before the contract was awarded.

#### **32.108 Financial consultation.**

Each contracting office should have available and use the services of contract financing personnel competent to evaluate credit and financial problems. In resolving any questions concerning (a) the financial capability of an offeror or contractor to perform a contract or (b) what form of contract financing is appropriate in a given case, the contracting officer should consult the appropriate contract financing office.

#### **32.109 Termination financing.**

To encourage contractors to invest their own funds in performance despite the susceptibility of the contract to termination for the convenience of the Government, the contract financing